



[K4GSO.us](http://K4GSO.us)

# The Oracle

## Newsletter of the Silver Springs Radio Club

*Oldest Radio Club in Marion County, FL*



May 2021

### President's Message

Bill Gillespie, KW5BG

I hope everyone is doing well. We've got a lot of things going on so you should be able to stay busy with our hobby. First on the list is Operating Day this coming Saturday at Perry Field. In addition to some of you seeing Perry Field for the first time, it'll be an opportunity for you to bring your Go-kit, set it up, and operate from an austere location. It will also give others ideas for their Go-kits. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs to help get you through the day, just bring your own drinks. There is a link on the club web page for you to sign up so we know how many to prepare for. You're welcome to bring a friend, your children, or spouse.

Also, Field Day is coming up June 26-27. We'll be discussing this during the May Membership Meeting. There are lots of ways to participate, so come and figure out where you fit in. The more the merrier!

We are entering hurricane season, so getting your equipment ready (see Go-kit activity above) is important. Being prepared is important. Being ready to assist is just as important. Our club supports the local ARES group and they can use all the help we can give them. Part of that assistance is being trained in different aspects of their support of outside agencies. If you need help in learning their requirements, contact Carl, KC5CMX, while Mike, W9MNC is recuperating.

Since we're back into in-person meetings, if you have an idea for a program, please let us know. Or better yet, if you would like to present one, we can certainly use those as well! I know we have some very talented members so share your expertise with the rest of us.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our meeting Tuesday night!

KW5BGn4@gmail.com

## Next Club Meeting

**Tuesday, May 18**

**\*\*\* Green Clover Hall \*\*\***

**319 SE 26th Terrace, Ocala**

**6:00 PM Mentoring & Socializing**

**7:00 PM Meeting**

**SSRC Board of Directors first Tuesday, 7:00 PM,  
Green Clover Hall**

## Upcoming Events

**May 22 — Operating Day, Perry Field Picnic  
9:00 AM until Noon**

[Sign Up Here](#)

**July 13 — VE Testing, Green Clover Hall  
7:00 PM**

**Silver Springs  
Radio Club Net  
K4GSO Repeater**

**Mondays at 7:30 PM**

**146.610, PL 123**

## Florida QSO Party – 2021

Wayne Brown, N4FP

This was my 9<sup>th</sup> year running in the Florida QSO Party contest (FQP). From 2013 through 2017 my xyl, Marty, N4GL, drove me around the state as a Rover for both days and I did all the operating on CW. She is a great driver. However, in 2018 she was delighted that I teamed up with Pete Stafford, K2PS, a great contest operator and good friend we have known since we moved to The Villages in 2011. Marty and I moved to Ocala in 2016 and remain active in The Villages Amateur Radio Club as well as the Silver Springs Radio Club.

In 2018 Pete and I shared the driving and operating, spending Saturday night at our QTH in Ocala. Then, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, I operated the Florida QSO Party from home and teamed up with Andy, AD4DA and Jim, KM4HI for a multi-multi mixed (CW and SSB) low power consolidated entry, each from our own station operating as N4FP. We each had our assigned bands/modes to avoid duplication, and we logged 1036 CW and 1553 SSB contacts and submitted our score on behalf of the Silver Springs Radio Club.



Once the Florida Contest Group decided we could operate mobile for the 2021 FQP, Pete and I again decided to hit the road together roving as N4FP, operating only CW. The FQP is a 20 hour contest, operating 10 hours on Saturday and 10 hours on Sunday with a 10 hour break between and was held this year on April 24-25. The objective as a Rover is to make as many contacts as possible from each county we rove in. Every time we entered a new county, as soon as we were spotted there would be a new pileup. Great fun.

Our equipment was my Flex-6400, hooked straight to the car battery, operating 100 watts. For an antenna we used Hustler mobile antennas horizontally mounted atop a 3 foot mast attached to the top of my Kia Sportage with a 3 magnet mount. We used an Acer notebook to run the Flex Radio software and N1MM+ logging software. N1MM keyed the transmitter and we could also use the keyer paddle when desired. The contact exchange included the other station's call, RST, and 3 letter county code.

We started Saturday in Sumter County and worked our way from west to east across counties just south of Sumter, then up the east coast from Seminole to St. Johns. Next we turned southwest heading to Marion County and Ocala. Sunday we worked counties to the north into Deval, then west to Madison and southeast back to The Villages. Altogether we operated from 32 different counties and logged 1955 contacts, averaging right at 100 contacts/hour for actual operating time. Conditions were much better on Sunday than Saturday, but, we did experience heavy power line noise both days. We were pleased with how the station operated and logged contacts from Germany to Hawaii. We submitted our log on behalf of the Florida Contest Group.

I am planning to bring my mobile station to the event on Saturday, May 22 at Perry Field. Hope to see you there.

73, Wayne, N4FP

## SSRC Member Biographies

### Roger Ackley, WA2CZR

Originally started into radio as a shortwave listener in 1960, and I believe it was Popular Electronics that issued shortwave listening call signs. I was assigned a shortwave listening call of WPE9CVO. I can still remember asking my mom to take me to the Gary Indian train station to pick up a Lafayette receiver that I ordered and at that time because of the weight they would only ship it by rail.

I got my novice license in 1962 or 1963; WN9DRR. Then I upgraded to tech the following year and my call was changed to WA9DRR. I was one of the HAMS that organized the first amateur radio club at Portage High School, Portage Indiana, my home town.

In 1965 I went to Valparaíso Technical Institute and received a Electronic Technician Certificate. General Electric Light Military (LM) came to school and was recruiting for their location in Utica, NY. So in 1968 I moved to upstate New York and became WA2CZR. While in NY I upgraded to General and Advanced Class.

Around 1992 my GE division was sold to Martin Marietta, and then around 1994, Martin merged with Lockheed and we became Lockheed Martin. I furthered my education at Mohawk Valley Community College and State of New York College of Technology with BS in Computer Science.

I was the Program Quality Director for the E2C Radar program and some of the PW Assemblies used on the E2C Radar program were subcontracted to the LM in Ocala in 1996. I then transferred to Ocala in 1997 and retired from LM Ocala in 2006. My final job in Ocala was the Quality Engineer on the Javelin Missile Program.

In 2006 to keep busy I got a Real Estate Sales License and worked for Foxfire Realty in Ocala until 2018. I still keep my license current and do referrals only.

I feel the need to keep busy, so during Covid I felt that I should get back into HAM radio. I felt that this is a great way to social distance and stay busy. I purchased a XEIGU G90, built an EFLW antenna which went up in January of 2021 and, so far, I have worked 18 countries in Europe and South America. Running 20 watts QRP with an antenna which is only 20 ft in the air is challenging as I find most stations are running 100 watt and up. The pile ups are brutal!

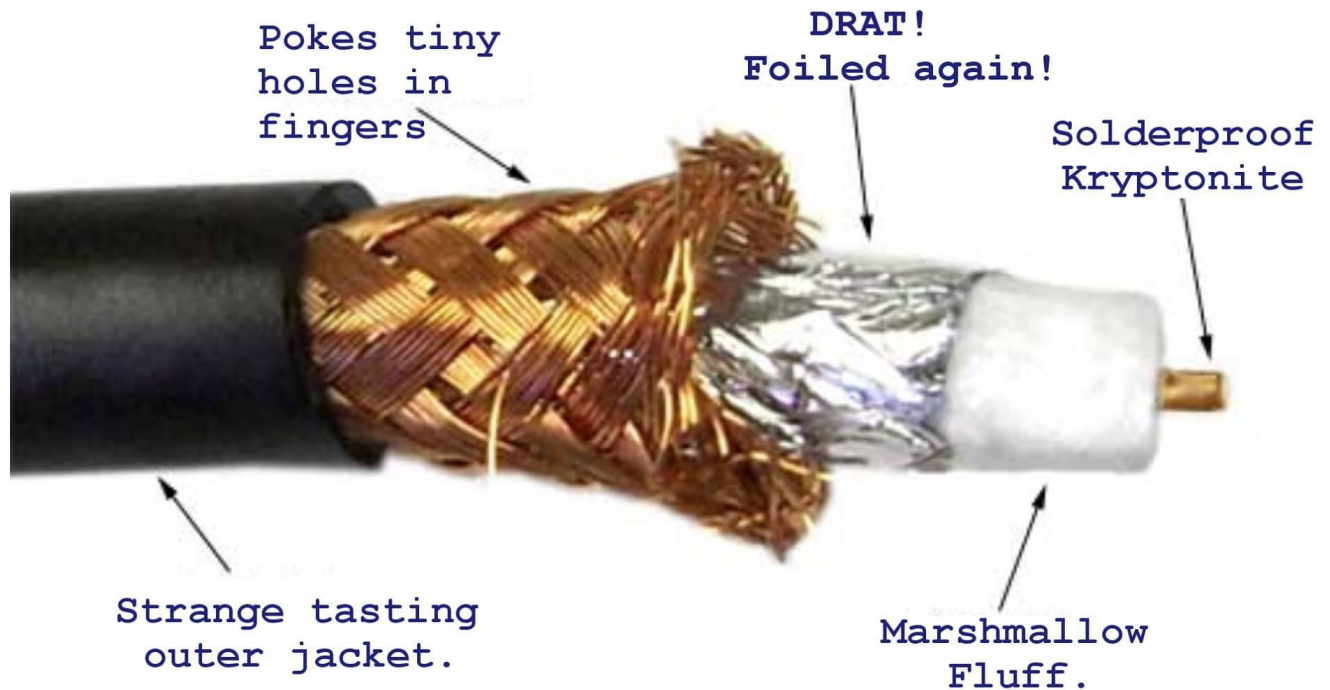
I've lived on E. Fort King Street since 1997 in the Stonewood II subdivision with my wife Theresa and my loyal dog Thor. I am looking forward to my first activation on POTA. If there is anyone out there looking to activate let me know!

73 Roger



From Carl, KC5CMX

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### 2021 SSRC Officers

[President— Bill Gillespie, KW5BG](#)

[Vice President— Jim Burgess, KN4MIV](#)

[Secretary — Ivory Williams, W6IVY](#)

[Treasurer— Tom Lufkin, W4DAX](#)

[Immediate Past President—Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K](#)

#### Directors:

[Mike Condon— W9MMC](#)

[Gilbert Gyarmati— K4GLG](#)

[Wayne Brown— N4FP](#)

#### Committee Chairs:

[Membership – Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K](#)

[Trustee K4GSO – Wayne Brown, N4FP](#)

[Newsletter – Marty Brown, N4GL](#)